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The President

Mr Fredrik REINFELDT
President of the Council of the European Union
Rue de la Loi 175
1048 Brussels
BELGIQUE

26.NOV 2009 205051

Dear President in office, Dear Frederic,

The Conference of Presidents meeting today has mandated me to write to you with regard to the Draft Council decision on the signing of "SWIFT agreement" between the European Union and the United States of America on the processing and transfer of Financial Messaging Data from the EU to the US for the purposes of Terrorist Finance Tracking Programme, which is on the agenda of the next Council meeting on 30 November 2009.

As you are aware from our resolution on the envisaged international agreement to make available to the US Treasury Department financial payment messaging data to prevent and combat terrorism and terrorist financing of 17 September 2009¹, the European Parliament feels strongly that this kind of Agreement concerning personal bank details of EU citizens should be adopted with full involvement of the European Parliament under the Lisbon treaty.

In view of the fact that the Lisbon Treaty will enter into force on 1 December 2009, I would request on behalf of the European Parliament that this kind of Agreement concerning all European citizens will not be adopted just the day before the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, depriving the European Parliament of expressing its position. Therefore, I would request the abovementioned item be removed from the agenda of the next Council meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Jerzy Buzek

¹ P7 TA-PROV(2009)0016